Hike in Pay Packets of pilots

3279. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to hike pay packets of pilots;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether this has cropped up fresh problems for Indian Airlines as reported in the Times of India dated 12th October, 1994, if so, the details thereof, and the steps since taken to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) A settlement was reached by the Air India mangement with the Indian pilots Guild on 26.9.94 on the revised rates of hourly payment to commanders/pilots. The rates of hourly payment vary from $87 per horu to $107 in the case of commanders and $53 per hour to $75 in the case of Co-pilots. Indian Airlines have introduced the same rates of hourly payment to their pilots, operating international fights from 15.10.94.

East West Airlines financial links with Dawood Ibrahim

3280. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that East-West Airlines, has close financial links with Dawood Ibrahim as published in "The Economic Times" dated the 7th February, 1995;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take against East-West Airlines; and

(c) whether Government would consider cancelling the East-West Airlines' licence to fly in India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The allegations of nexus between East West Airlines and Dawood Ibrahim are under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Cancellation of flights due to outbreak of Plague

3281. SMT. CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines (IA) and the Air India (AI) cancelled a member of flights recently due to outbreak of plague in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, airline-wise;

(c) the amount of financial loss suffered by each of these airlines as a result thereof;

(d) whether several foreign airlines also cancelled their flights to India due to outbreak of plague;

(e) if so, the names of the airlines which cancelled their flights;

(f) whether all these airlines have since resumed their flights;

(g) if not, the names of the airlines which have not yet resumed their flights; and

(h) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the government for resumption of services by these airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India and Indian Airlines cancelled 434 and 110 flights respectively owing to restrictions placed by various countries on operation of flights and entry of Indian passengers to those countries in the wake of plague out break in India.

(c) Loss incurred by Air India on account of cancellation of flights was Rs. 29.88 crores and Indian Airlines, Rs. 28 crores.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) 1. Saudia
2. Emirates
3. Gulf Air
4. Biman Bangladesh
5. Pakistan International Airlines.
6. Air Canada
7. Kuwait Airways
8. Malaysian Airlines
9. Air Lanka
10. Aeroflot
11. Oman Air
12. Qatar Airways
13. Air Mauritius
14. Yemenia
15. Kazakhstan Airways

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

Fraud by Officials of Bank of Maharashtra

3282. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has recently unearthed a multi-crore fraud by officials of the Bank of Maharashtra.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether the Banks are taking any lessons from the security scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURtra have reported that it had noticed in 1989-90 some irregularities in pre-sanction appraisal and post sanction follow-up in respect of advances made to diffent firms of Desai Group in 1986—89. The bank had reported the matter to the Central Bureau of Investigation for conducting an investigation. The bank also filed civil suits for recovery of dues. CBI have reported that they have registered a case in February, 1994 in the matter. The CBI also conducted searches on the premises of former executives of the bank who were responsible for granting credit facilities and also the premises of the proprietor/partner of the Desai Group of Companies.

(c) The obove fraud relates to the period 1986—89 which is prior to the irregularities in securities transactions However, the public sector banks at the instance of Government and RBI have taken several steps for checking corruption and prevention of frauds. These steps include issuing of comprehensive guidelines of RBI for strengthening control mechanism in banks, setting up a Special Investigation Cell in RBI, review of fraud cases on continual basis by RBI, proper training of operational personnel, etc. RBI also monitors the progress made by the banks in implementation of various accepted recommendations of the Ghosh Committee which enquired into various aspects relating to frauds and malpractices in banks.